Remarks

Claims 1-30 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Guheen et al. (US Pat. No. 6,536,037). In response, independent claims 1, 12, and 20 have been amended to more clearly recite what the Applicants regard as their invention. Particularly, these claims have been amended to include the following limitations:

- The signal received is sent via a Generic Equipment Model (GEM) or an Electronics Assembly Machine Communication (EA) protocol;
- A user defined action is executed in response to a statistical processing of the received signal; and
- The user is alarmed in response to the user defined action.

Analysis of Guheen reveals that these limitations are neither taught nor suggested by his system. Because of this, independent claims 1, 12, and 20 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Regarding all other claims, since these claims depend from allowable base claims 1, 12, and 20, all other claims are allowable over the prior art of record.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein; and no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references. As the Applicant has overcome all substantive rejections given by the Examiner the Applicant contends that this Amendment, with the above discussion, overcomes the Examiner's rejections to the pending claims. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that any issues regarding the status of the claims remain after this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative to expedite resolution of the matter. Finally, please charge any fees (including extension of time fees) or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502117.

Respectfully Submitted,

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by:____

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